

FIRE PROTECTION POLICY BOARD

MEETING

February 25, 2004

General Administration Building
Olympia, WA

Board Members Present: Jim Potts, Mark Kahley, TJ Nedrow, Jim Broman, Sharon Colby, and Joe Coulman

Board Members Absent: Janet Paulson

WSP Staff Present: Anjela Foster, Ellen Tombleson, Chuck King and Chris Jensen

Standing Committee: Dave Wakefield, Chair-State Fire Defense Committee

Guests Present: Chief Lowell Porter and Dr. Bob Barnard

APPROVAL OF AGENDA-

The agenda was approved, with a revision to change the order of agenda items, moving the Decision Items first.

DECISION ITEMS-

1). State Fire Defense Committee (SFDC) Mobilization Amendment

Dave Wakefield, Chair of the SFDC provided an overview of the changes proposed in Section 14 of the Washington State Fire Services Mobilization Plan, and recommended that the Fire Protection Policy Board approve the Decision Item.

MOTION: Jim Broman moved, and Jim Potts seconded to the proposed changes in Section 14, as presented by the State Fire Defense Committee.

Discussion on the Motion: As clarification, Dave advised how the individual agency chooses to compensate their staff/volunteers is their call.

Motion passes. Unanimous.

Mark Kahley stated the State Fire Defense Committee produced an excellent piece of work in the re-write of Section 14, and asked that Dave forward the Fire Protection Policy Board's appreciation of their efforts.

2). Establishment of a Standing Training Committee

Dr. Bob Barnard, in coordination with the State Fire Marshal's Office, provided a concept paper for the formation of the Fire Service Training Committee. In discussion it was agreed that:

- The Fire Service Training Committee (FSTC) would act in an advisory and recommendation capacity to the FPPB, and not as an implementation group.
- The FSTC would be staffed by the State Fire Marshal's Office;
- That a strategy should be developed by the FSTC;

- The FPPB would be aggressive in finding members from each fire service organization to ensure geographical representation;
- Although there is a need to set parameters for the committee, it is also necessary to allow the committee flexibility;
- The FSTC should research options to bring to the FPPB for discussion and evaluation;
- Professional Development should be a critical aspect to be included

Jim Broman advised that he feels the name of the FSTC should be made broader, so it is not strictly focused on training. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Committee could be charged with determining an appropriate name for themselves which is more holistic and not focused strictly on training, but also on professional development. Dr. Barnard advised if the Board is comfortable with the intent of the draft letter seeking representation on the Committee, the letter could be sent out with a response deadline identified that allows time for the associations to evaluate who is best suited to represent them on the Committee. It was agreed that the April Work Session could be used to set out goals for the Committee, and that at the May meeting the Board would review the recommendations and make the committee appointments. It was agreed that all nominations received be forwarded out to the Board for their review, prior to the May meeting.

MOTION: Jim Broman moved, and TJ Nedrow seconded to establish an Advisory Committee to the Fire Protection Policy Board to develop a statewide plan for training, preparation and professional development for fire service personnel.

Motion passes. Unanimous.

3). Fire Inspector I Professional Qualification Accreditation

In 2003 The Fire Inspector Level I was taken to 3 public information gathering meetings in Renton, WA and Selah WA. The concerns expressed at the public meetings dealt with Fire Code certification prior to testing for certification as an Inspector.

The testing process established by the Technical Advisory Group for the Fire Inspector I level of NFPA 1031 requires the candidate to meet a pre-requisite of Fire Code certification, such as Uniform Fire Code or International Fire Code. The authority having jurisdiction determines the Fire Code that is adopted for that jurisdiction.

IFSAC certification for Fire Inspector I measures the candidates' ability to perform in a manner consistent with the Fire code that is adopted. The IFSAC Fire Inspector I certification exam does not take the place of the Fire code certification such as mentioned above. Training as a Fire Inspector and Fire code certification are pre-requisites for testing.

The Technical Advisory Group agreed that a currency process should be adopted for the Fire Inspector I level. Currency will require that the candidate stay current in the Fire Code and meet continuing education requirements. The currency is voluntary as is the currency established for Fire Investigator. These requirements will be formalized by the Technical Advisory Group and then will be available to candidates who apply for certification testing.

MOTION: Jim Broman moved, and Jim Potts seconded to adopt Fire Inspector I from the NFPA 1031 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plan Examiner, 1998 Edition.

Motion passes. Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jim Broman moved, and Jim Potts seconded to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2003, Regular meeting, with the correction of the date printed in the footer of the minutes.

Motion passes. Unanimous.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the January 28, 2004, Work Session.

Motion passes. Unanimous.

REPORTS

State Fire Marshal – State Fire Marshal Mary Corso distributed a copy of the Legislative Tracking Sheet, and advised that a final hearing on the bill adding the State Fire Marshal to the State Building Code as an ex-officio member was scheduled for today. State Fire Marshal Corso also distributed a report from the National Fire Protection Association detailing firefighters fatalities in 2002.

State Fire Marshal Corso introduced Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Chuck King to provide information detailing the status of enrollment and reimbursement of the Basic Firefighter Training Program. Chuck also provided an overview of his outreach activities of the last few months detailing presentations made to market the program.

In response to Mark Kahley's request for information detailing the inclusion of the wildland firefighting module in the Basic Firefighting Training Program, Chuck advised that he would provide charts that detail completed training, broken down by modules. Chuck advised that he will add the number of outreach contacts and presentations made to his reports to the Fire Protection Policy Board.

State Fire Defense Committee

Chair Dave Wakefield advised that the State Fire Defense Committee would continue to bring chapters forward to the Board, as they are reviewed by the State Fire Defense Committee. Goals in the revision of the Mobe Plan are to reduce the number of pages, add clarification and make the plan easier to read in bullet, versus paragraph format.

Dave thanked Dan Johnson for his efforts in updating the plan and commended him on the work he has done. Dave provided an overview of revised sections 4 & 6, and advised that sections 6 & 7 would be presented to the Fire Protection Policy Board for approval as a Decision Item at their May meeting.

Following discussion on standards and certifications it was agreed that this discussion needs to be taken back to the represented organizations for further discussion, and could also be forwarded to the FSTC for their review. Dave invited the FPPB to discuss this issue directly with the SFDC at a future meeting.

E-911 Committee – Jim Potts advised that there is no new information to report. Sharon advised that although Jim Potts' term on the FPPB has expired, and the Governor's Office is in the process of naming his replacement, he has offered to continue as the FPPB representative on the E-911 Committee until his replacement has been identified and is up to speed.

State Interoperability Executive Committee-

Jim Broman advised the deadline for the draft interim plan is the end of March. He advised a main goal of the plan is to reorganize REDNET, OSCAR and LERN frequencies to allow for interoperability during major events. The next meeting for the SIEC is March 30.

NEW BUSINESS

Regional Contract Funding – Assistant State Fire Marshal Chris Jensen provided an overview of the regional contract expenditures and accomplishments of the last 3 years. Chris advised that the data shows the majority of the funding was spent on course delivery. Chris is currently working with the Regional Council Chairs on inventory lists and statements of work for future contracts. There is a concern that the benefit of the regional contracts may not be providing a broad penetration into the regions. Chris advised that the contract applications for this year will be evaluated to ensure accountability, are within the scope of their objective and have a broad penetration into the region. Following discussion it was agreed that this issue should have further review as how the funding is distributed for possible changes in the system in the 2005 biennium.

OLD BUSINESS

Pending List – The Pending List was reviewed and will be updated accordingly.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Mark Kahley provided an overview of the "How to Deal With Your Own" conference he had the opportunity to attend, that was delivered by the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation, and sponsored by the Bureau of Land Management. Mark advised that this class, designed for Agency Administrators/Chiefs, provided excellent information on how to deal with line of duty fire deaths.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30.

Next Meeting:

Work Session
April 28, 2004
Spokane

Approved:

Sharon Colby, FPPB Chair (Date)